GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1796
ANSWERED ON:12.03.2007
FARM AND INDUSTRIAL TRAINING CENTRES
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to formulate any plan to attract youth to the farm sector by identifying promising children;

(b) if so, whether the Government is also considering to set up Farm Schools and Farm Industrial Training Centres across the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government proposes to give Bonus/Incentives to farmers to promote oilseeds and pulses productions;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether there is any proposal to set up pulse villages and facilitating Self Help Groups to produce seeds in the country;

(g) if so, the details thereof, location-wise; and

(h) the steps taken by the Government along with the funds allocated for the purpose?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a) to (c): The Government of India is implementing a Central Sector Scheme on `Establishment of Agri-clinics and Agri-business Centres (ACABC)`. It aims to provide fee based extension and other services to farmers through self-employment ventures. The agricultural graduates interested in setting up their self-employment ventures are eligible under the scheme. The selected agricultural graduates are provided training in one of the many nodal training institutions identified for the purpose. The trained agricultural graduates are also eligible for subsidy for setting up their self-employment ventures.

(d) to (h): The Government of India is implementing a Centrally Sponsored scheme titled `Integrated Scheme on Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm, and Maize (ISOPOM)` w.e.f. 1.4.2004 for increasing the production and productivity of oilseeds and pulses in 14 major states viz. Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal in the country.

Under the scheme, financial assistance is provided for purchase of breeder and foundation seed production, distribution of seed mini kits, infrastructure development, block demonstrations on improved technology, Polythene Mulch technology and Integrated Pest Management Technology, distribution of plant protection chemicals, plant protection equipments, weedicides, supply of rhizobium culture/ phosphate solubilising bacteria, distribution of gypsum/ pyrite/ liming/ dolomite, distribution of sprinkler sets, pipes for carrying water from water sources to the field, farmers training, officers training, publicity, etc. on fund sharing pattern of 75:25 between Government of India and State Governments for increasing production and productivity of oilseeds and pulses and to encourage farmers to cultivate these crops on large scale.

In order to augment the availability of quality seeds of pulses, an assistance of Rs.500/- per quintal is provided to farmers through the implementing states in selected villages under the seed village component of the scheme. An allocation of Rs.270.00 crore has been made under ISOPOM during 2006-07 for implementation of various components of the scheme including seed village.